



Date: 28/11/2022

To: Chair and Directors, Cariboo Regional District Board

And To: Brian Carruthers, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

From: Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services

Date of Meeting: Cariboo Regional District Board_Dec09_2022

File: 1855-20-22-22

Short Summary:

BC Air Access Program (BCAAP) Grant Application for the South Cariboo Regional Airport Runway Overlay

Voting:

Corporate Vote - Weighted

Memorandum:

The BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has announced the next call for applications under the BC Air Access Program (BCAAP). BCAAP is a component of the 10-year transportation plan, BC on the Move. The deadline for applications is December 22, 2022.

For this BCAAP intake, an application will be prepared for up to \$2 million to support the performance of a runway overlay at the South Cariboo Regional Airport to address a loss of aggregate in the runway, which is leading to a gradual deterioration of the surface. The BCAAP program covers 90% of the costs of infrastructure projects, such as a runway overlay, up to a maximum of \$2 million.

The total estimated cost of the project is \$4,489,229. While applying to BCAAP for \$2 million, the CRD will also leverage up to \$1,000,000 in funding from airport capital reserves; the remaining costs may be covered via short-term borrowing, which does not require a referendum and can be accommodated with the existing financial plan and other grant funding as it becomes available.

The South Cariboo Regional Airport provides essential transportation infrastructure for the south Cariboo, connecting the area to the regional, provincial, and international transportation network. The airport experiences approximately 5,000 movements per year, an annual average of 35 medevac flights, use by the RCMP, and use by the BC Forest Service to fight interface wildfires, illustrating the importance of the facility to the region.

Attachments:

BCAAP Guidelines 2023/2024

Financial Implications:

If approved, the British Columbia Air Access Program will provide up to \$2 million toward the \$4,489,229 project costs. The South Cariboo Regional Airport budget has \$1.085 million in capital reserves as of the end of 2022 that could be allocated for leveraging, and the remaining costs may be covered via short-term borrowing or other grant funding if it becomes available.

Policy Implications:

A runway overlay for the South Cariboo Regional Airport has been a Cariboo Regional District business plan goal priority since 2012.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- ☐ **Communication:** Facilitate communication strategies throughout the entire Cariboo Regional District that meet the needs of residents, community stakeholders, and other levels of government.
- ☐ **Planning:** Intentionally plan services and activities of the CRD to prepare for future needs of residents and community stakeholders.
- ☒ **Economic Sustainability:** Foster an environment to ensure the economic sustainability of CRD communities and the region.
- ☐ **Governance:** Ensure that CRD governance policy and practices are intentional, transparent, and respectful.

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CAO Comments:

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Options:

1. Endorse recommendation;
2. Receipt and other action.

Recommendation:

That the agenda item summary from Darron Campbell, Manager of Community Services, dated November 28, 2022, regarding an application to the British Columbia Air Access Program, be received. Further, that an application be submitted to the program for up to \$2 million to perform a runway overlay at the South Cariboo Regional Airport. And further, that the appropriate signatories be authorized to enter into the necessary contribution agreement should the grant application be successful. *Further action at the discretion of the Board.*